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Re:

US Serial No. 10/084,895 Our Reference: VTN0581

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Docket No. VTN 581

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Parnell, et al.

February 28, 2002

Group Art Unit:

3726

Serial No:

10/084,895

Examiner:

John C. Hong

For:

Filed:

RIGID VACUUM TIP

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE APRIL 23, 2004 OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on April 23, 2004, favorable reconsideration of the above-identified patent application in view of the following amendment and remarks is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 10 of this paper.